

DEC 27 1989

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Middle Valley Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number West Mill Road, Middle Valley Road, Beacon Hill not for publication

city, town Long Valley vicinity

state New Jersey code 034 county Morris code 027 zip code 07853

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>80</u>	<u>31</u>	buildings
<u>9</u>		sites
	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>89</u>		objects
	<u>32</u>	Total

See Sheet 3/3.1

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

William L. Slusher

12/15/89

Signature of certifying official
Assistant Commissioner for Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Patrick Andrus

9/25/90

for Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Agricultural/Agricultural Outbuilding

Commerce/Department Store

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Agriculture/Agricultural outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Vernacular

Italianate

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Other: Fieldstone

walls Other: Fieldstone

Other: Clapboard

roof Other: Slate

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture
Architecture
Commerce & Industry
Community Development & Planning

Period of Significance

1740-1900

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

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Classification Addenda

This Classification Addenda supercedes the Middle Valley Historic District Registration Form cover page received by the National Park Service on December 27, 1989. (Document #89002353).

The total number of identified resources within the district is 132. There are 107 contributing resources and 25 non-contributing resources.

Number of Resources within property:

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Non-Contributing</u>
Buildings	88	25
Sites	16	0
Structures	3	0
Object	0	0
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	107	25

The breakdown was based on the property inventory in the application. Outbuildings constructed of fieldstone and frame were generally cited as contributing. Outbuildings which were clearly cited as modern or which use building materials not usually associated with post-1900 were cited as non-contributing. Foundations were cited as contributing.

The following is a property by property account of the calculations:

Code:

C - Contributing
NC - Non-Contributing
AS - Site
S - Structure
B - Building

Inventory # 1 - 1 CAS	Inventory #23 - 2CB
2 - 2NCB	24 - 2CB
3 - 5CB; 1CAS	25 - 3CB
4 - 1NCB	26 - 1CB; 1NCB

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(Continued)

5 - 4CB; 1CAS	27 - 1CB
6 - 8CB; 1CAS	28 - 2CB
7 - 1CB; 2CAS	
8 - 2CB	30 - 2CB; 1CAS
9 - 2CB; 1NCB	31 - 3CB; 1NCB
10 - 3CB; 1CAS	32 - 2NCB
11 - 2CB; 1NCB	33 - 2CB; 1NCB
12 - 5CB	34 - 1NCB
13 - 2CAS	35 - 1NCB
14 - 1CB	36 - 5CB; 2NCB
15 - 4CB; 1CAS	37 - 1CB
16 - 1NCB	38 - 1NCB
17 - 2CB	39 - 3CB
18 - 1CB	40 - 1CB
19 - 2CB; 1NCB; 2CAS; 1CS	41 - 1CB; 1NCB
20 - 1CB; 4NCB	42 - 2CB; 1CAS
21 - 1CB; 2NCB; 1CAS	43 - 4CB; 1CAS
22 - 2CB	44 - 5CB; 1CAS; 1CS
	45 - 2CB

(8/2/90)

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Middle Valley Historic District

Description

Middle Valley is located in the southwest corner of Morris County in a valley bounded by Fox Hill to the east and Schooley's Mountain to the west. The South Branch of the Raritan River, flowing through the valley along the base of Schooley's Mountain, is fed by the many small springs which abound there. The land, rising gently from the Raritan to the base of Fox Hill, is prime agricultural soil that has been under cultivation for the past 240 years. The valley was part of the Budd Tract, a vast amount of property that was granted to John Budd by William Penn. Portions of this tract were leased to the first settlers, whose farmsteads originally extended across the entire valley.

On the west side of the river, there is a sharp rise in elevation known as Schooley's Mountain. Views from this part of the district into the valley below are enchanting. In the valley itself, Route 513 runs parallel to the Raritan. A row of buildings situated along this highway comprises the greater portion of the district. The Middle Valley district also extends up Schooley's Mountain along Middle Valley Road, which crosses the river and joins 513 at an intersection that remains one of the focal points of the community. The district is bounded by agricultural land and hedgerows to the east, and by the river and Schooley's Mountain to the west. To the north, the district is bounded by Beacon Hill Road and to the south by open farmland.

Today Middle Valley still appears much as it did at the end of the 19th century. Most of the buildings pre-date 1900: the majority were constructed between 1840 and 1890. Almost all of the houses were built close to the roads, with their outbuildings to the rear. Behind the buildings lie open fields and hedgerows. Because Middle Valley was ignored by the rest of the world for many years, most of its buildings have survived intact and with very little alteration. For the time being, it is still surrounded by farmland.

The Middle Valley District is composed of 45 buildings with attendant outbuildings. All but three of these primary buildings are dwellings. For the most part, they are frame buildings with fieldstone foundations and gable roofs, and illustrate local interpretations of different styles of architecture. Several houses date from the mid-1700's, but the majority were built between 1840 and 1890. They are generally of moderate size and simple design, although there are a few larger, more elaborate houses. Few have been altered beyond unobtrusive kitchen additions, and only a small minority have had their original appearance altered by the use of modern exterior materials. Some have suffered from neglect, but most are well maintained and in good condition.

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One of Middle Valley's important architectural and archeological resources is the great number of attendant outbuildings that are still standing. Outbuildings such as barns, sheds, icehouses, spring houses, chicken coops, and privys have been located and identified. Several farmsteads (#3, 36, and 43) have dairy barns dating from the end of the 1800's, when Middle Valley was an important dairy center.

All buildings in Middle Valley face the road and have short setbacks, especially the ones located on Route 513. This highway was a dirt wagon track until 1927 when the road was cut and paved. The cutting of the road caused it to be lower than the original wagon track in several places. As a result, stone retaining walls and steps down to the street were constructed in front of several houses. There are no sidewalks in the district, except for a small area in front of two houses. Many large old trees stand along the roadside in front of the houses, and the yards are well maintained. There is a complete absence of formal landscaping in keeping with the rural character of the community.

Outhouses and springhouses can be found on the grounds of many properties, and virtually every house has at least a barn or small shed on the property. These generally have been converted into garages. An inventory of all buildings and sites found in this district is included at the end of this section.

Several buildings related to the development of this community are no longer standing; however, their location and former function have been recorded in this inventory because of their value as archeological resources. Primary buildings have been classified as "contributing" or "non-contributing" to Middle Valley's historical and architectural character. There are only eight non-contributing primary buildings. Of these eight, four are houses of relatively recent construction which fit into the district visually. These are compatible in terms of proportion, simplicity, and the building materials used. The remaining non-contributing buildings are outbuildings of 20th century origin, such as garages. Two other non-contributing buildings that figure significantly in Middle Valley's history are the old Post Office and the Schoolhouse. In total, there are 80 contributing buildings, 9 contributing sites, 31 non-contributing buildings, and 1 non-contributing structure.

The buildings of Middle Valley show the evolution of the vernacular architecture of this rural section of New Jersey. They range from the unadorned buildings of the mid to late 1700's to the more fanciful and elaborate ones of the mid to late 1800's. Most of the district's buildings are frame dwellings with fieldstone foundations, although houses made entirely of fieldstone are well represented. The frame houses are generally traditional, 2 and 2-1/2 story buildings. Common features are regular facades, either 3 or 5 bay with center entrances, gable roofs, and interior chimneys, usually located at the gable ends. Centered gables appear on the houses constructed in the last quarter of the 19th century.

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The styles of these frame houses range from an East Jersey cottage, #3, to several constructed in the Queen Anne manner. Two of the frame houses in the district, #3 and #44, date from the 1740's, but most were built in the latter half of the 19th century, examples being #9, 10, 12, 15, 17, 22-28, 30, 31, 33, 40, 42, and 45. The earliest example of the center hall house is #44, which dates from the mid 1700's. It appears that the house was originally 1½ stories, and with the front raised to 2 stories it gives a "saltbox" effect. Its front facade is relatively unadorned, except for a transom over the front entry way.

The influence of the Greek Revival style can be seen in several buildings, most notably the Dufford General Store, #7. This building has plain, full-height pilasters and an entry way with sidelights and an eight-light transom. The portion of the building originally used as living quarters has a regular front facade, while the section used as the store constitutes an addition to one side, forming an L-shaped structure. House #8, immediately to the south of the general store, shows some Greek Revival detailing, particularly its attic frieze windows with elaborate wooden grilles.

Several houses, #9, 17, 22, and 30, are examples of the influence of the Italianate style. They are characterized by round-headed windows and double entry doors with round top lights. The presence of centered gables on #17 and #22 shows the development of exterior detailing. House #9 most likely had its Italianate detailing imposed on a more simple structure. It has ornate scrollwork that projects below the eaves. Houses #9 and #30 are the only ones in the district that have this feature.

There is one example of the Carpenter Gothic style in Middle Valley, #12. This house has a regular three bay facade, but it is further ornamented by decorative trusses at the side gables and vertical siding at the eaves. It and house #6 are both banked buildings.

Two buildings, #5 and #15, display Queen Anne ornamentation, the latter in an exuberant and elaborate manner. Both have well detailed wrap-around porches, and the fishscale shingles under the eaves are echoed in the pattern of the slate roofs. Both have scalloped trusses at the eaves. In addition, #15 has a turreted balcony.

These frame houses represent a wide range of vernacular styles and differ mainly in their degree of ornamentation. Most of them are grouped together, and give Middle Valley the visual quality of a turn-of-the-century village.

Another type of frame building can be found in Middle Valley. This is the simple, rectangular-plan worker's house. Examples of this type of building are #14, 31, and 39. They are characterized by front porches with simple detailing and interior ridge chimneys. House #14 is a three bay dwelling with a center entrance, while #31 has two bays and some ornate trim on the front porch. House #39 is also a two bay dwelling and is the simplest in detail. All of these were built about the same time in the late 1800's, and are probably related to the coming of the railroad. Worker houses of this type are numerous in Morris County, but are not commonly found in Washington Township.

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A third category of buildings are those composed entirely of fieldstone, as represented by #6, 6.1, 19, and 32. The springhouses associated with #36 and #44 are also examples of this type of construction. Both the David Miller House, #19 and its neighbor the Asylum, #6, are prime examples of the vernacular stone architecture that is one of the hallmarks of Washington Township. They are also indicative of the prominence and wealth of two of the earliest residents of the area, being unusually grand in scale for their time and location. Each is referred to in early deeds as a "Mansion House". There is evidence that some of the detailing has been removed from the rear facade of the Asylum as this elevation features a door at the second level which has no steps leading down. The German stone barn associated with the Asylum is one of a mere handful still existing in Washington Township. It has round decorative vents at its gable ends. The David Miller House was constructed about 1750 and has a later addition which dates from the late 1790's. The portion of the house built in the 1790's has Federal detailing which includes a wide gambrel roof and a gouge carved frieze, rare for this section of Morris County. It also has quadrant windows at the attic level, and there is some evidence that originally there may have been a fan light over the front entrance. The David Miller House is listed in the Historic American Buildings Survey.

Outbuildings are common in this rural community and are generally located behind the houses. They are mostly frame buildings with fieldstone foundations and are usually small barns or sheds. Except where noted, they date from the second half of the 19th century.

An inventory of all sites and buildings within the district accompanies this description. Each principal structure is identified by a number which locates it on the attached district map. Outbuildings located on the same parcels of land as these primary buildings are identified by their number followed by a decimal point and another number. The sites of buildings no longer standing, as well as a few outbuildings in ruined condition are identified by the number of the parcel followed by a letter. All entries have been classified as "contributing" or "non-contributing", except for smaller buildings and sites, such as chicken coops and the foundations of sheds.

References to the documentation of the buildings and sites are included with each description. All the deeds cited have been traced back from current ownership, and the full chain of ownership can be found in Section 9. Only maps and the earliest pertinent deeds are included in the inventory. Deeds predating construction of a given building are cited to indicate when a small tract, generally a house lot, was divided off from a larger parcel. In the case of the Dufford General Store, the earliest deed cited contains a list of buildings on the property, in which the store and the dwelling house are not mentioned. For the earliest buildings in the district, those pre-dating 1850, early records were generally not available. The deeds cited, which generally post-date construction, are used to establish early ownership.

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Middle Valley Historic District

Description: Inventory*

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|-----------------|
| 1 | <p>Middle Valley Cemetery</p> <p>Contributing</p> | <p>Beacon Hill
Date: 1830's
Negative # 1</p> | <p>B55/L2</p> |
| <p>The original two acres of the Middle Valley Cemetery were owned by the German Valley Reformed Congregation which aquired them in 1832. The cemetery is on the top of a hill and overlooks the district. Some of the taller markers can be seen from the valley below. This cemetery is thought to be the burial place of Samuel Swackhammer, the community's first settler, and a stone erected here in 1938 marks the site of his grave. There are many old headstones marking the graves of other early settlers, including members of the Dufford, Neighbour and Trimmer families. The earliest marker is that of Miriam Cobb, which is dated 1794. The cemetery is enclosed by a fieldstone wall with cement pargetting.</p> <p>References: MCHR Corporation Book D 304</p> | | | |
| 2 | <p>House</p> <p>1½ story frame <u>dwelling</u></p> <p>Style: Ranch
Non-contributing</p> <p>Exterior fabric is aluminum siding with asphalt shingled roof.</p> <p>Outbuildings: 2.1 Modern frame <u>greenhouse</u></p> | <p>Beacon Hill

Date: 1950's
Negative # 2</p> | <p>B55/L3.1</p> |
| <p>Setting: Although this building is not in keeping with the character of this district, it is not visible from the road as it is heavily screened by shrubbery.</p> | | | |

* For abbreviations and conventions, see Section 7, page 7.33.

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3 The Trimmer Farm 333 WM B55/L3

Frame dwelling with a rectangular floor plan and gabled roof. It has 1½ stories, two corbelled brick end chimneys, one with an exposed fireback, and a rear wing with a brick chimney.

Style: East Jersey Cottage
Contributing

Date: mid to late 1700's
Negative # 3

This building has a fieldstone foundation with cement pargetting, and modern siding over the original clapboard. Later additions include an enclosed porch and a frame, tar paper-sheathed addition off the kitchen wing. It has a slate roof and continuous seam metal roofing over the side porch. There are cornices and eaves with 1x6 fascia and crown molding. The windows are 6/1 double hung sash.

- Outbuildings:
- 3.1 Wood frame barn with fieldstone foundation and cement pargetting.
 - 3.2 Wood frame barn with fieldstone foundation and corrugated metal roof.
 - 3.3 Small fieldstone barn, in poor condition.
 - 3.4 Wood frame barn with cinder block foundation.
 - 3.5 Wood frame chicken coop.
 - 3A Fieldstone foundation of a dairy barn with an attached silo.

Setting: The house and outbuildings are situated directly on the main road. Behind them lie 110 acres of gently rolling land that is still being farmed.

References: MCHR B 2 354, Roxbury Township tax ratables 1779.

4 House WM B55/L3

Three bay, 1½ story dwelling

Style: Expanded Cape Cod
Non-contributing

Date: circa 1950
Negative # 4

Exterior fabric is aluminum siding over clapboard. It has 6/1 double hung sash. The front porch is supported by fieldstone piers. Although this is a contemporary building, it is consistent with the rest of the district in terms of proportion.

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5 **The Andrew Dufford House** 343 WM B55/L30

Five bay, 2½ story wood frame dwelling with a square floor plan and three interior corbelled brick chimneys.

Style: Queen Anne
Contributing

Date: circa 1892
Negative # 5(1), 5(2)
and 5.3

Clapboard sheathing is accentuated with fish scale and scalloped cedar shingles and an ornate Queen Anne wrap-around porch. This porch has turned posts and ornate eaves with carved crown pieces accentuated with dentil molding. Bay windows with coffered panels have ornate fascia with crown molding and dentils. There are copper sunburst-tipped lightning rods on each of the four gables. The gables have ornate scalloped trusses. The porch has a tongue-in-groove ceiling with chamfered rafters and scalloped trusses, and ornate Victorian corbels at the turnposts.

- Outbuildings 5.1 Wood frame barn with fieldstone foundation.
- 5.2 Wood frame privy.
- 5.3 Wood frame shed with fieldstone foundation barn siding, and hand-split cedar shingles on the roof. It has one brick chimney and dates from the late 1800's. It was the wash house and ice house for the Andrew Dufford House, and stands on the site of the John Miller blacksmith shop.
- 5A Site of old barn. Some fieldstone foundation is still visible.

Setting: This house and outbuildings are part of a large estate that also includes house #6. They are located close to the road and are part of a 70 acre tract that is currently under cultivation. The property boundaries extend across the road to the South Branch of the Raritan River. This section of the river was formerly a mill pond.

References: Robinson Map of 1887. Interview with Laura Dufford Gano, daughter of builder.

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6 The Asylum 347 WM B55/L30

Fieldstone dwelling consisting of a 3 bay, 2½ story rectangular block with a 1½ story kitchen wing. There are two fieldstone chimneys and the roof is gabled. The building is banked into a slight slope.

Style: Local Stone Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1780
Negative # 6(1), 6(2),
6.1 and 6.2

Early exterior fabric is fieldstone with stucco pargetting, with stonework exposed at the corners and below the windows. The main roof is slate while that of the kitchen wing is hand-split cedar shingles. The main part of the house has 9/6 double hung sash, interrupted by 6/6. The kitchen wing has 6/6, 2/9, and 4/2 double hung sash. Part of the original beehive oven is visible on the north wall of the kitchen wing. There is evidence suggesting the former existence of porches on both sides of the main wing: doors above ground level have no steps leading down. The kitchen roof has an overhang to create an unenclosed entrance porch. The kitchen door is a Dutch door and may be original.

This property has been associated with a number of persons significant in local and state history. Its original owner was William Welsh, who purchased the property about 1775. Welsh built the saw and grist mills later known as the Dufford mills. He sold this estate to Nicholas Neighbour in 1793. Neighbour was active in politics and was elected to the State Assembly*. He, among others in his family, founded the village of Newcomerstown, Ohio after his departure from Middle Valley. He sold this estate to Ebenezer Sherwood in 1815. Sherwood was an early practitioner in the field of mental health. While living in Middle Valley, he used the basement of his house for the treatment of the insane. This is how the house acquired its nickname.

- Outbuildings:
- 6.1 Fieldstone German barn, probably built at the same time as the house.
 - 6.2 Wood frame barn with fieldstone foundation, built as an addition to 6.1.
 - 6.3 Wood frame shed with fieldstone foundation.
 - 6.4 Wood frame shed with fieldstone foundation.
 - 6.5 Wood frame chicken coop.
 - 6.6 Wood frame privy.
 - 6.7 Wood frame privy.
 - 6A Site of wood frame barn, attached to 6.2. The barn complex of 6.1, 6.2, and 6A form an enclosed courtyard.

Setting: see Item 5

References: MCHR C 2 212 (1815), Roxbury Township tax ratables list 1779.

*Chambers, Theodore Frelinghuysen, *The Early Germans of New Jersey*, Baltimore Genealogical Publishing Co., 1969, p. 154.

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7 Dufford General Store 356 WM B33/L74

Wood frame dwelling consisting of a 2½ story, 5 bay rectangular block with two brick chimneys and a gabled roof. It has a 3 bay wing with a gable end facing the road. This section was originally the general store. Both sections of the house are of identical size, forming an L-shape.

Style: Vernacular Greek Revival
Contributing

Date: circa 1850
Negative # 7(1), 7(2)

This buildings has clapboard siding and a fieldstone foundation. The roof is continuous metal seam roofing and has icebreakers. The center door has an eight-light transom and four lights in either side. A window at the rear of the building is also surrounded by an eight-light transom and four side lights, indicating that it replaced a door. The building has a three part entablature with a simple frieze and there are pilasters at its corners. Although the house has many Greek Revival details, it also draws from earlier Georgian and Adams styles. The gable end has a close rake and the cornice is carried beneath the side gable. The second story has narrow crowns with a 9/6 light pattern, and the second story window crowns penetrate into the architrave. Other windows are mostly 9/9 double hung sash, although there are some 1/1 replacements. Between this house and the road lies a fieldstone retaining wall with a stone soldier-course cap.

Setting: The South Branch of the Raritan River flows behind the property. This portion of the river was at one time the mill pond.

References: Appears on the Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR M 4 164 (1847) V 5 323 (1860).

7A Site of the Dufford Grist and Saw Mills B33/L74

This is the site of a grist mill and a saw mill dating from 1779. Some of the stone foundation of the mills is still visible on the east bank behind the Dufford General Store, as is some of the foundation for the dam on the west bank of the Raritan River. The site has remained undisturbed since the mill was torn down in the 1930's. Early descriptions of the tract mention the existence of outbuildings associated with the mills.

Contributing

References: Appears on the Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853. MCHR M 4 (1847), V 5 323(1860).

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8 **Historic House** 358 WM B33/L75

Frame five bay, 2½ story dwelling with a small addition to the rear of the rectangular block, and two brick chimneys.

Style: Vernacular, Greek Revival Detail
Contributing

Date: circa 1865
Negative # 8

This center hall house has clapboard siding, a slate roof, and a fieldstone foundation. There are five attic frieze windows on the front of the house, and three at the rear. They are covered with ornately scrolled, Greek Revival style wood grills in a classical motif. The rest of the windows are 6/6 double hung sash with a few 1/1 modern replacements, and 4/4 double hung sash under the gables of the roof. There are double leaf entry doors and built-in gutters. The front porch running the length of the house has six square, tapered columns with top and bottom plates and crown molding. This is of more recent construction, probably dating from the 1920's. There is a fieldstone wall at the front of the property.

Outbuildings: **8.1** Wood frame garage with a pyramidal hipped roof and a fieldstone foundation, possibly a former carriage house.

References: Appears on the Beers Map of 1868. MCHR V 5 323 (1860), H 15 475 (1897), E 41 207(1946).

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9 **The Levi Farrow House** 11 MV B54/L8

2 ½ story cruciform wood frame dwelling with irregular additions and one interior brick chimney. The roof is gabled.

Style: Vernacular with Italianate Trim
Contributing

Date: circa 1866
Negative # 9

This irregularly shaped building is clad with modern wood shingles, but its detailing remains mostly intact. All of the additions pre-date 1900 and most of them are probably from the 1870's. The 2/2 windows have projected round arch molding with finials. There are twin round arch windows at the top of the front gable. A few windows are 6/6 double hung sash. Ornate scrollwork projects 10" below the eaves under the gabled roof. There is a brick porch with two columns with entasis. There are scrolled dentils around the eaves of the porch.

This house was purchased by Dr. Farrow in 1866. He was president of the Morris County Medical Society in 1881. He was also active in the Prohibition movement, assisting in the founding of the Morris County Journal in the 1800's, which at the time was the only Prohibition weekly in Morris county (source: *Biological and Genealogical History of Morris County*, vol. 1, p. 403.).

Outbuildings: **9.1** Wood frame barn.
 9.2 20th century wood frame cottage.

References: Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR U 6 443 (1865), R 7 119 (1869) interview with Lillie Hoffmann.

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Middle Valley HD, Washington Township,
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10 Historic House 13 MV B54/L8.1

2½ story, three bay L-shaped dwelling with a gabled roof and one brick chimney.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1866
Negative # 10

This house has clapboard siding and a fish scale slate roof. The windows are 6/6 and 2/2 double hung sash. A porch extends across the entire front of the house and has turned columns with some detailing at the corbels. It has undergone no major alterations.

Outbuildings: 10.1 Wood frame shed.
10.2 Wood frame shed.
10A Site of icehouse located to the rear of the house.

References: Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR S 6 372, (1865), R 9 400 (1877), S 9 112 (1877). Interview with Lillie Hoffmann, current owner (b. 1914).

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- 13A Site of the Middle Valley Train Station. B33/L77
Contributing Date: circa 1877
References: Lowenthal, Larry, *Iron Mine Railroads of Northern New Jersey*, Tri-State Railroad Historic Society, Inc., 1981.
- 13B Site of the Middle Valley Peach Basket Factory. B33/L76
Contributing Date: late 1800's
References: Lowenthal, Larry, *Iron Mine Railroads of Northern New Jersey*, Tri-State Railroad Historic Society, Inc., 1981.
- 14 Historic House 16 MV B33/L79
Wood frame 1½ story rectangular dwelling with front gable.
Style: Vernacular worker house Date: late 1800's
Contributing Negative # 14
It has wide-coursed clapboard siding and a small clapboard sided porch at the front entry. There are 2/2 double hung windows.

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Morris County, NJ15 **The William Naughtright House** 19MV B54/L4

Three story wood frame dwelling with square floor plan and two interior corbelled brick chimneys. The roof is gabled.

Style: Queen Anne
Contributing

Date: circa 1881
Negative # 15(1), 15(2)

This clapboard sided building has a fieldstone foundation and ornate Queen Anne fascia. There are scalloped shingles at the third floor level and at the gable on the wrap-around porch. There are scalloped trusses at the gable apex. There are also decorated pediments over round arch windows and Palladianesque windows below these. There is a fish scale slate roof, which is echoed by the fish scale sheathing above the dormer windows. The porch, which is supported by brick piers with lattice work between them, has elaborate corbels and balusters in a weave pattern. There is a turreted balcony with turned balusters. There is also a small balcony off the kitchen. This house has superb detailing, condition and integrity. It is a rare and important example of the Queen Anne style in Middle Valley.

This house was built by William Naughtright, who made a handsome fortune in the dairy business. In 1889 he was elected to the State Assembly and was re-elected in 1890. During both terms in office he was the chairman of the committee on education. In 1981-2 he was the journal clerk of the House of Representatives (source: *Biological and Genealogical History of the State of New Jersey*, pp.927-929).

Outbuildings: 15.1 Clapboard sided carriage house with a slate roof and fieldstone foundation.
 15.2 Wood frame barn with fieldstone foundation.
 15.3 Wood frame shed.
 15A Site of old barn. Part of fieldstone foundation is still visible.

References: MCHR I 5 255 (1856), E 10 103 (1879).

16 **House** MV B54/L4.1

Wood frame dwelling.

Style: Contemporary
Non-contributing

Date: 1988
Negative # 16

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17 **Buttonball Farm** 25 MV B54/L3

Five bay, 2½ story frame dwelling, with a rectangular floor plan, gabled roof, and two corbelled brick chimneys.

Style: Vernacular Italianate
Contributing

Date: circa 1870
Negative #17

It has clapboard siding, a fieldstone foundation, and 2/2 double hung sash, and it is built into the side of the hill. There are field stone retaining walls on both sides of the property as well as a fine fieldstone wall that runs the length of the property across the front of the house. Fieldstone piers support a raised front porch with ornate trim which extends across the entire length of the house. There are also double front entry doors. A spring flows from a stone fountain just downhill of the house.

Setting: This house is located in an area that has many springs. The views into the valley at this site are magnificent.

References: Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.

17.1 **Historic House** MV B33/L80

1½ Story dwelling with rectangular floor plan.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1890
Negative # 17.1

This was formerly the carriage house to #17 and has been converted into a cottage. It has clapboard siding, 6 light and 9 light casement windows, and a slate roof with copper flashing. The roof is gabled. This is a banked structure with a mixed assortment of fenestration. The first level is fieldstone and the second level has a balcony which overlooks the valley.

References: MCHR T 11 348.

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Middle Valley HD, Washington Township,
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18 **The Chapel** WM B55/L29

Three bay, one story chapel with a rectangular floor plan and a gabeled roof.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1794 and 1891
Negative # 18(1), 18(2)

This structure has a projecting bell tower with an open belfry and pyramidal roof. It is one story with 16 feet from floor to ceiling. The roof is corrugated metal, and there are dentils and crown molding on the fascia board which runs around the perimeter of the building immediately under the eaves. The Chapel was built on the fieldstone foundation of a general store known to have been in existence in 1794. It was constructed in 1891 and has remained unaltered.

References: Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR K 13 588 (1891). Morris County Tax Ratables List of 1794 (foundation).

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20 The Old Post Office 360 WM B54/L9

Irregularly shaped 1½ story dwelling with a gambrel roof.Style: Vernacular
Non-contributingDate: circa 1926
Negative # 20

This building was formerly used as a general store and post office, and later as a gas station. It has stucco and asphalt siding and continuous metal seam roofing.

Outbuildings: 20.1 Frame barn with fieldstone foundation. The barn is much older than the post office and is associated with a stone house that originally stood here.

20.2-20.4 Wood frame summer cottages.

References: MCHR H 13 34 (1891).

21 House 362 WM B54/L10

1½ story wood frame dwelling with fieldstone fireplace and a gable roof with expanded dormers.Style: Vernacular
Non-contributingDate: circa 1920
Negative # 21

This small rectangular building has clapboard siding, asphalt shingles on roof, and 6/1 double hung windows. There is a wrap-around roof over the front entry way.

Outbuildings: 21.1 Frame shed, formerly the Crestmore Train Station.

21.2 Wood frame summer cottage.

21A Site of Old Blacksmith Shop. Located next to the road. One stone pillar still stands.

References: Interview with Stefan Firtko (Crestmore Train Station).

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22 Historic House 370 WM B54/L11

Five bay, 2½ story rectangular dwelling with a small kitchen addition to the rear and two corbelled brick chimneys. There is a gabled roof, including a front gable.

Style: Vernacular with some
Italianate detailing

Date: circa 1880

Contributing

Negative # 22

Aluminum siding covers some of the original detailing. The original front porch has also been removed. There is a scalloped slate roof with "snow birds", 2/2 double hung windows, and double wood front doors with round arch lights. The two side gables have intersecting pediments at the attic level, while the front gable has a round window. There is a bay window on the south side of the house.

Outbuildings: 22.1 Frame shed with fieldstone foundation.

References: Robinson Map of 1887, Interview with Laura Dufford Gano (b. 1895).

23 Historic House 372 WM B54/L13

Three bay, 2½ story frame rectangular dwelling with a gabled roof and an external chimney.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: 1873
Negative # 23

It has a fieldstone foundation, clapboard siding, a slate roof and 2/2 double hung sash. The roof has double intersecting gables and crown molding on the eaves. The paired round arches at the level of the front gable have ornate scrollwork. There is a wrap-around front porch with turned posts, and the double entry doors have glass sidelights and a glass transom.

Outbuildings: 23.1 Wood frame barn, currently being used as a studio.

References: MCHR F 8 585 (1872), B 9 482 (1874).

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24 The Andrew Trimmer House 374 WM B54/L14

Three bay, 2½ story dwelling with a T-shaped floor plan. There is a kitchen addition to the rear and a small porch addition to one side. The roof is gabled, with one corbelled brick chimney.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1875
Negative # 24

This building has clapboard siding, 2/2 double hung sash, and a double hung front door. A side entry porch has fluted millwork columns and has been partially enclosed by screening. There is crown molding at the cornices, and 1x10 fascia board below the eaves. There are paired round arch windows under the gable at the attic level, and these have shutters. The double wood front entry doors have a glass transom, and the house rests on a fieldstone foundation.

Outbuildings: 24.1 Wood frame barn with fieldstone foundation.

References: Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR T 8 524 (1873), M 10 404 (1880).

25 Historic House 371 WM B55/L25

Three bay, 2½ story rectangular dwelling with a gabled roof and two corbelled brick chimneys.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1888
Negative # 25

This house has clapboard siding, a fieldstone foundation, and a slate roof. The windows are 2/2 double hung sash. The eaves have crown molding and there are ornamental trusses at the gables, as well as built-in gutters. A front porch runs the entire length of the house and has ornamental posts and a turned baluster rail. The porch roof has sculpted brackets, and there are ornamental brackets on the porch posts. The double entry door has a glass transom.

Outbuildings: 25.1 Frame shed with fieldstone foundation.
25.2 Frame barn with fieldstone foundation.

References: MCHR N 12 201 (1888).

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26 **Historic House** 376 WM B54/L15

Three bay, 2½ story rectangular dwelling with a 2 story addition to one side. It has a gable roof and two corbelled brick chimneys.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1880
Negative # 26

The outside of this building was restored to its original condition in 1988. It has clapboard siding, a fieldstone foundation and 2/2 double hung sash. There is a transom and also a pediment over the front entry door.

Outbuildings: 26.1 20th century wood frame barn with cinderblock foundation.

References: Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR M 10 404 (1880).

27 **The Peter Kice House** 373 WM B55/L24

Three bay 2½ story L-plan frame dwelling with a small kitchen addition to the rear. It has a gable roof and two corbelled brick chimneys.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: 1893
Negative # 27

It has clapboard siding and an asphalt-shingled roof. There are two bay windows: one is oriel and the other is cantilevered. Both have coffered panels below, and dentil molding and corbelled brackets on the fascia above the window. There is fascia board with crown molding under the eaves and at the cornices. Each gable has staggered-course cedar shingles at the pediment. The porch has turned posts and its balusters are in a weave pattern. The windows are 2/2 double hung sash, and there are double leaf entry doors at the front of the house. The foundation is fieldstone, and there is a river-stone retaining wall at the front of the property by the road.

References: MCHR W 13 225 (1892).

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28 **The Laney Young House** 378 WM B54/L16

Two and one half story, L-plan frame dwelling with two brick chimneys.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1864
Negative # 28

The exterior of this house has been altered with aluminum siding, although not beyond redemption. The original trim has been buried and the front porch enclosed with this siding. The windows are the original 6/6 double hung sash.

Outbuildings: 28.1 Frame barn with fieldstone foundation.

References: Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR E 7 311(1864). The house is mentioned in M 10 404 (1880).

29 **House** 375 WM B55/L23

Three bay, 1½ story rectangular wood frame dwelling with small addition to one side. The roof is gabled.

Style: Vernacular
Non-contributing

Date: 1946
Negative # 29

This has clapboard siding and a fieldstone foundation. Although this house is of relatively recent construction, its appearance is not at odds with its historical neighbors. It is compatible in terms of proportion and building materials.

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30 **The Elmer Huffmann House** 380 WM B54/L17

Four bay, 2½ story T-shaped frame dwelling. It has a small kitchen addition to the rear of the house, a gabled roof and two chimneys.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1883
Negative # 30

This building has clapboard siding, a fieldstone foundation, and a fish scale slate roof. The gabled center dormer has a round top window with Italianate molding. The windows are 2/2 double hung sash. A front porch with built-in gutters and crown molding runs the length of the house and has elaborate brackets on fluted posts.

Outbuildings: 30.1 Frame barn with fieldstone foundation, currently used as a garage.
 30.2 Well.

References: Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR E 11 21 (1883).

31 **Historic House** 379WM B55/L22

Two bay, 2½ story rectangular dwelling with small addition to one side and one interior brick chimney. It has a gable roof.

Style: Vernacular worker house
Contributing

Date: circa 1890
Negative # 31

This house has clapboard siding, a slate roof, and a fieldstone foundation. The windows are 2/2 double hung sash. The front porch running the width of the house has 6x6 turned posts, and there is lattice work between the piers that support it.

Outbuildings: 31.1 20th century frame garage.
 31.2 Frame privy.
 31.3 Frame shed.

References: MCHR Y 12 83 (1890).

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32 House 382 WM B54/L18

Three bay, 1½ story, fieldstone dwelling with a rectangular plan, one chimney, and a gable roof.

Style: Vernacular Stone
Non-contributing

Date: 1930
Negative # 32

This has double front gables and 1/1 double hung windows. This house, which was built by a local stone mason, is a continuance of local techniques which were seen earlier in the Asylum and the David Miller House. It was the last stone house to be built in Middle Valley.

Outbuildings: 32.1 Fieldstone garage.

33 The John Geist House 383 WM 55/L21

Three bay, 2½ story, square frame dwelling with a kitchen addition to the rear, a gable roof, and two corbelled brick chimneys.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1885
Negative # 33

It has vinyl siding over clapboard, and a fieldstone foundation. The side and front gables have intersecting pediments at the attic level. The windows are 2/2 double hung sash.

Outbuildings: 33.1 Frame shed.
33.2 Modern garage.

References: Robinson Map of 1887, MCHR Q 11 499 (1885).

34 New Pools Construction 384 WM B54/L19

Contemporary pole barn used to house construction equipment.

Non-contributing

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35 House 385 WM B55/L20.1

Five bay 2½ story frame dwelling.

Style: Ranch
Non-contributing

Date: 1971
Negative # 35

36 Historic House 398 WM B54/L20

Five bay, 2½ story, rectangular frame dwelling with one stone chimney.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1840
Negative # 36

This building has painted cedar shingle siding over the original clapboard. The foundation is fieldstone, and the windows are 2/2 double hung sash. The front door has a pediment and four-pane sidelights. There are built-in gutters, and eave returns and cornices on each gable end. This house was moved about 50 feet back from its original foundation due to its proximity to the road. Modern alterations include a redwood deck at the side.

- Outbuildings:
- 36.1 Cinder block barn with attached silo and new gambrel roof.
 - 36.2 Small barn with fieldstone foundation. This is adjacent to 36.1 and these buildings along with the remnants of a fieldstone wall combine to form a courtyard.
 - 36.3 Frame barn with fieldstone foundation, in use as a garage.
 - 36.4 Cinder block shed.
 - 36.5 Frame chicken coop.
 - 36.6 Fieldstone springhouse.

Setting: This complex of buildings sits in a low-lying area that is part of an artesian system of many springs, and is mostly open marshland.

References: Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR E 4 339 (1844).

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37 **Historic House** 400 WM B54/L21

Three bay, 1½ story rectangular frame dwelling with recent 2½ story addition.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: mid 1800's and 1975
Negative # 37

The early building has eyebrow windows and 6/6 double hung sash. There is a brick fireplace on one end. Both this part and the modern addition are clad with cedar shingles.

References: Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.

38 **Middle Valley School** 402 WM B54/L22

Three bay, 1½ story square frame schoolhouse, currently in use as offices for the Washington Township Board of Education.

Style: Colonial Revival
Non-Contributing

Date: 1927
Negative # 38

The extended entranceway at the front of this building has a gable with returns and an elaborate fanlight. There is an ornate copper-clad cupola at the top of the double-hipped roof. The building has clapboard siding and a fieldstone foundation with cement pargetting.

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39 Historic House 401 WM B55/L19

Two bay, 2½ story rectangular frame dwelling with one interior brick chimney.

Style: Vernacular worker's house
Contributing

Date: circa 1850
Negative # 39

This building has clapboard siding and a fieldstone foundation. The front porch has a tongue-in-groove deck and ceiling. The original porch posts have been replaced with simplified wooden cross-bracing. Most of the windows are 2/2 double hung sash, and there is a nine light window at the attic level. A fieldstone retaining wall runs along the road at the front of the property.

Outbuildings: 39.1 Frame shed.
39.2 Frame shed.

References: Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.
MCHR 4 360 (1844).

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Middle Valley HD, Washington Township,
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40 Historic House 405 WM B55/L19

Three bay, 2½ story rectangular dwelling with a gable roof. It has two small additions, one to one side and the other to the rear.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: late 1890's
Negative # 40

It has clapboard sheathing and a fieldstone foundation. The windows are modern replacements.

References: Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR E 4 360.

41 Historic House 406 WM B54/L23

1½ Story frame rectangular dwelling with a gable roof and one chimney.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: reconstructed circa 1927
Negative # 41

This building has clapboard siding and an enclosed front porch. It was constructed in part from materials salvaged from the original schoolhouse building of site 38 after fire partially destroyed it in 1926. One entire side of this school, which was built in the mid-1800's, was used in the construction of this dwelling. Turned posts typical of this earlier period are visible on part of the front porch.

Outbuildings: 41.1 Modern frame garage.

References: Interviews with Laura Dufford Gano, Lillie Hoffmann, and Stefan Firtko.

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42 The Mary Trimmer House 411 WM B55/L10

Three bay, 2½ story cruciform frame dwelling with two interior corbelled brick chimneys. There are several small additions to the rear and side of the house.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1885
Negative # 42

It has clapboard siding, a fieldstone foundation, and a slate roof. The front porch has some Victorian detailing on the four structural porch posts, and there are double entry doors with coffered panels. There is crown molding under the eaves and at the cornices. There is a bay window on the south side of the house, which also has built-in gutters.

Outbuildings: 42.1 Frame privy.
42A Remains of cistern.

Setting: This house lies on a 50 acre tract of land currently under cultivation, although it is being considered for development. To the south of the structure lies a small wetlands area. There are three springs here, and this is where the cistern can be found.

References: Robinson Map of 1887.

43 The Lawrence Dufford House 414 WM B54/L24

Three bay, 1½ story frame dwelling with contemporary addition.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: mid-1800's and 1985
Negative # 43

This building has been altered in appearance with the new addition, which is to the rear of the original building. This has eyebrow windows and two brick chimneys, one of which is new. There is a small front porch.

Outbuildings: 43.1 Frame shed, in poor condition.
43.2 Frame shed.
43.3 Frame lean-to.
43A Site of Middle Valley Creamery. A dairy business dating from the late 1800's. Some stone foundation is still visible, and the creamery pond remains.

References: Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.

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44 George Dufford House 422 WM 54/25.1

Five bay, 2 story rectangular frame dwelling with a small kitchen addition to the rear. It has three brick chimneys, two interior and one exterior.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: mid to late 1700's
Negative # 44(1), 44(2)

This house has clapboard siding and a fieldstone foundation. It appears to have been a 1½ story building originally, with the roof raised on the front facade early in its history. The porch and the kitchen addition on the southeast side of the house were added in the middle 1800's. There is a transom over the double front entry doors. An old stone mounting block stands at the front of the building.

- Outbuildings:
- 44.1 Frame barn.
 - 44.2 Fieldstone springhouse.
 - 44.3 Frame chicken coop.
 - 44.4 Frame shed with small copper cupola.
 - 44.5 Frame covered footbridge.
 - 44A Site of Original Washhouse. Some fieldstone foundation remaining. It is thought to be the original kitchen for #44.

References: Roxbury Township tax ratables list, 1779 and 1786. MCHR N 3 403 (1837).

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45 Historic House 438 WM B54/L25.2

Three bay, 2½ story frame dwelling with a T-shaped floor plan, a gable roof, and three brick chimneys.

Style: Vernacular
Contributing

Date: circa 1870
Negative # 45

This building has a fieldstone foundation, and there is also a fieldstone wall along the road at the front of the property. The original clapboard siding has been covered with aluminum siding, but the slate roof remains. The windows are 6/6 double hung sash. There are several small additions to the rear of the house.

Outbuildings: 45.1 Frame shed with continuous seam metal roofing.

References: Robinson Map of 1887.

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Abbreviations and Conventions

WM = West Mill Road
MV = Middle Valley Road
Block and Lot designations are given as "B/L".
References are given from "MCHR", Morris County Hall of Records.

Numbering

The number (n) denotes the primary building on a lot.
Features associated with n are:

nA (a site on property n, such as a building that is no longer standing)
n.m (a non-contributing outbuilding m on property n)
n.m (boldface means the outbuilding m on property n is **contributing**)

Negatives

n(1), n(2) (two different shots of primary structure n)
n.m (negative for outbuilding n.m)

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Middle Valley HD, Washington Township,
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Middle Valley Historic District

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Clearly associated with documented agricultural trends in New Jersey from the eighteenth century to the end of the nineteenth century, Middle Valley is historically important as a representation of those trends, and as a rare survival of the rural community in Washington Township.

As a result of a dramatic and rapid decline in farming in New Jersey in the second half of the twentieth century, the collective dwellings, barns, sites, and rural vistas of Middle Valley are uniquely reflective of the agricultural traditions of Morris County.

Early New Jersey pioneers spoke of growing wheat, barley, rye, oats, Indian corn, melons squash and pumpkins. Wheat and corn were especially important. Generally, in the eighteenth century working grist mills were scattered along the rivers of eastern New Jersey. These mills provided a vital service to the early farms. Middle Valley had a grist and saw mill complex that was in operation for over a century. Grain was the major product of the grist mill, although the mill was used for other sundries.

By the mid-nineteenth century, because of the competition from western territories in the production of grain, New Jersey farmers shifted to fruit raising and livestock. Middle Valley became an important dairy center; one of the largest in the area. Domestic animals did not change much over the years. There was cattle for dairy products, swine for winter food, sheep for wool and poultry for both eggs and meat. Horses were used for travel and draft animals.

One of the most interesting developments in western New Jersey's history was the half century long production of peaches. Middle Valley not only produced peaches, they also opened a peach basket factory. This profitable industry lasted until the blight attacked the fruit trees in the early twentieth century.

Middle Valley's physical features are clearly evocative of these agricultural trends.

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Middle Valley Historic District

Statement of Significance

INTRODUCTION

The hamlet of Middle Valley is one of two surviving important village centers in Washington Township, the other being Long Valley. Initially settled in the early 1700's by farmers, by the end of the 19th century it had grown into a self-sufficient village hosting several small businesses. Indeed, the name "Middle Valley" first appeared during the 1860's¹ at the height of this transition. Growth was initiated and spurred by members of several prominent families. These families, as well as the other residents, tended to marry within the small community, leading to a sense of inter-relatedness in which community identity and familial identity were intertwined to an unusual degree. One of the important features of Middle Valley is the clustering of successively more elaborate houses, all built by different generations of the same family as their fortunes improved. These houses, built on tracts of land originally purchased by the patriarch of the family, clearly illustrate the development of family farmsteads over a period of at least one hundred years. The mixture of later architectural styles juxtaposed with the original farmsteads and their many original outbuildings gives Middle Valley its unique architectural appearance and distinctive historical character. At least one building, the David Miller House, has individual significance. It is listed on the Historic American Buildings Survey (NJ-519) and the Morris County Historic Sites Inventory of 1966. Collectively, the buildings of Middle Valley illustrate the development of the vernacular architecture of this rural area from its initial settlement in the early 1700's through the end of the 19th century.

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Middle Valley HD, Washington Township,
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COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

1. *Agriculture/Early Farmsteads*

Middle Valley is located in the southwest corner of Morris County. For most of its history, its economic underpinning has been based on agriculture. The early settlers, of whom one Samuel Swackhamer was thought to be the first, were on their way from Philadelphia to New York when they happened upon this valley. According to legend, they were induced into staying by the physical beauty of the area, as well as by its rich farmlands, springs, and rivers².

These early immigrants settled on what was known as the "leased lands", which were portions of the Budd Tract. In Middle Valley, the first lease holders were Johannes Heger, Lorentz Schlieger (leased in 1750), Peter Mains (leased in 1747), John Stine (leased in 1747) and John Hendershot (leased in 1747).³ Early documents such as deeds, Roxbury Township tax ratables lists, and the Militia Census indicate that Middle Valley's initial settlement took place between 1750 and 1780. A document written in 1779 described the leased lands as being "now in possession or occupation of several persons holding the same by lease, viz Stephen Teafort, Stephen Tearberack, John Fauger, William Welsh, William Trimmer, Peter Young, Jacob Height, Jacob Hager, Thomas Neal, Ruliff Ruliffson, Joseph Shay, and Issac Smith Hendershot".⁴ Of these, Fauger, Welsh, Hager (also spelled "Heger" and "Hagar"), and Hendershot are associated with Middle Valley. They are all listed on the Roxbury Township tax ratables list of 1779. Hendershot is shown as being a householder rather than a landowner, but all four were taxed on their livestock.

In 1818, William Pennington of Newark purchased the tract of land that included Middle Valley from the heirs of John Budd⁵. By this time, the leaseholders were beginning to treat their farmsteads as their own *in fee simple*, "whereas rents were accruing and falling due thereon in the lifetime of the said William S. Pennington, and also since his death".⁶ These ownership disputes were not resolved until the 1840's when commissioners, in this case Messrs. Banks, Budd, and Doremus, were "appointed to survey the whole tract and allot the different sums which each farm was to pay for the whole amount"⁷. For some properties, deeds of ownership cannot be found until this time. Nevertheless, there is some evidence to document the early construction, ownership, and occupation of the first farmsteads.

The George Dufford House (#44) is generally believed to date from the middle of the eighteenth century. The house may have been built by John Hendershot, who on April 13, 1747, leased this land for eight years rent free, as he was to make "improvements"⁸. The property passed to his son Issac Smith Hendershot, who was in occupation of the property in 1779⁹. At some point the property passed into the

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hands of a John Frone. Frone appears on the Roxbury Township Tax Ratables List of 1786 as owning 125 acres and several horses and heads of cattle. After his death, his wife Eve occupied the property until 1839. The house itself is mentioned in a lease of 1837, in which Eve Frone kept for her own use "the two back rooms behind the entry on the north side of the house, with part of the cellar and garrett"¹⁰.

Little documentation exists about the early history of the Trimmer Farm (#3). Part of the house appears to be very old and is thought by local residents to have been constructed by Johannes Heger sometime after he leased the property in 1747¹¹. According to Chambers it was owned successively by William Welsh, Jr., Aaron Howell, and Anthony Trimmer¹². However, a deed of sale for an adjoining piece of property mentions "John Hagar's (sic) corner, now Fonger's"¹³. Fonger also appears in other documents as "Fauger" or "Fokker". The Roxbury Township Tax Ratables List of 1779 shows John Fonger as owning 200 acres with livestock consisting of three horses, four head of cattle, and three hogs. From this it may be inferred that he was living on the property at the time. The dwelling house and outbuildings are mentioned in a deed of sale dated 1841¹⁴.

In 1747, Peter Mains leased a tract of land that was later purchased by William Welsh¹⁵. Welsh either gave or sold it to his son-in-law, David Miller. The older section of the building located on this property, which is now known as the David Miller House, probably dates from the middle 1700's. Little is known about Mains, but Miller enjoyed fame and wealth. He was born on April 26, 1769, and was a man of strong religious and moral principles¹⁶. He was Middle Valley's first storekeeper, and the first postmaster in Washington Township. The newer, more elaborate section of his house was undoubtedly constructed after 1794, as the Morris County Tax Ratables Lists do not show him owning any property until that year. A barn associated with this farmstead (#19A) stood on a site slightly to the south of the house.

The "Asylum" (#6) was built about 1780 by William Welsh, Jr., and had a succession of owners who figured prominently in local and state history. Its original German stone barn, the only one in Middle Valley, still stands to the rear of the house, along with outbuildings of later vintage. Welsh sold the property to Nicholas Neighbour in 1793. Neighbour, who was nicknamed "the Judge", served in the Revolutionary War. He was a Whig in politics and was a representative in the State Assembly. In 1814 he purchased a tract of land in Ohio and in 1815 led a colony of New Jersey people there to found the village of Newcomerstown¹⁷. The Asylum acquired its local nickname when Dr. Ebenezer Sherwood purchased the property from Neighbour in 1815. Sherwood, another prominent resident, was an early practitioner in the field of mental health and kept a private institution for the treatment of the insane in the basement of his house¹⁸.

Middle Valley is fortunate that several of its original farmsteads remain in existence, and that many outbuildings are still intact. All of these farmsteads have outbuildings

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that are arranged in similar patterns. The Asylum and the farm buildings associated with House #12 have an arrangement of the main barn and two smaller barns being physically connected to form a U-shape. In the case of the Asylum, the original German stone barn is one of the smaller wings. The Trimmer farm (#3) also appears to have its outbuildings in this arrangement, but since they have deteriorated significantly it is difficult to make an exact assessment. The barns of Middle Valley Nursery (on the border of the Middle Valley Historic District but not included) and those associated with House #36 are arranged to form an enclosed courtyard or what the English call a "foldyard". A foldyard is an enclosed area created by the arrangement of three buildings in the general pattern of a "U", except that they are not connected¹⁹. In Middle Valley, the largest barn always forms the center of both the courtyard and the foldyard, with smaller barns or sheds at right angles to it. The farmhouse itself is not part of either pattern, but stands some distance away. This practical arrangement created a protected place for livestock and may be seen in some of the aerial photographs included in this application.

One reason why farmsteads still predominate in Middle Valley today is that many of them remained undivided and in the possession of the same family for many years. The Trimmer farm was owned successively by four generations of Trimmers, from 1834 to 1928²⁰. The Dufford properties were held together in an unusual manner. The will of George Dufford contained clauses which created successive life estates for three generations of his offspring.

In his will, George Dufford specified that each of his farms be left to one of his children. For example he gave and bequeathed to his son Andrew Dufford "the farm on which I now live together with my lot on Schooley's Mountain...and after his decease to his lawful children during their lifetime and after their death to their lawful children to share and share alike"²¹. Clauses such as these would most likely not be put in a will today because of the rule against perpetuities, but their use in the Dufford inheritance served to remove the holdings from commerce for a long period of time. Dufford's entire estate, which consisted of several farms and the mill property, remained in the possession of his descendants until the 1960's. The rights to the farm which was willed to Andrew Dufford still remain vested in Andrew's daughter, Laura Dufford Gano. This particular farmstead has remained intact and undivided for 130 years.

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Morris County, NJ2. *Prominent Families*

Much of the architectural history of Middle Valley is connected with groupings of houses built on these farmsteads which were owned by one family over a period of many years, reflecting changes in taste, position, and influence. The newer houses were generally built and then occupied by the landowner, with the older houses either being rented out, as they still are today, or given to children or aged parents.

The clusters of houses that were built on the Dufford farmsteads illustrate the history of this prominent Middle Valley family and give Middle Valley much of its visual character. The Dufford patriarch, George, started off farming a large tract of land, and added to his holdings between 1840 and 1860. Due to the profitability of these enterprises, he and his descendants were able to expand into non-agrarian pursuits. By the last half of the 19th century, the Duffords operated the General Store (#7), the Mill (#7A), a lime kiln next to the Asylum, and an iron mine located on Turtleback Road, which is to the east of this historic district.

A. The Dufford Family Cluster The George Dufford House (#44) and several hundred acres of adjacent farmland were purchased by Mr. Dufford in 1853. The house was then inherited by Dufford's son Elijah in 1864 and remained in the possession of the Dufford family until 1965. The Lawrence Dufford House (#43) is situated on the original family tract and was occupied by George's son Lawrence. It is immediately to the north of #44. The Mary Trimmer House (#42) was built about 1885 by Lawrence Dufford's daughter. It too is on the original tract and is directly across the road from #43. These houses, representing three generations of the same family, are quite close together and shared the same water source, a series of springs, for many years. House #45 was also built by the Dufford family as a house for farm workers, probably a manager. It is located immediately to the south of the George Dufford House.

Another Dufford family cluster is located in the center of the village. The "Asylum" and its adjoining acreage were purchased by George Dufford in 1845²². In 1860, he also bought the Mill (#7A) and the General Store (#7)²³. Upon his death in 1864, his son Henry inherited the mill property and another son, Andrew, received the Mill. Andrew and his mother lived in the "Asylum" until 1892, when he completed the Andrew Dufford House (#5) a Queen Anne house, as a present to his new bride. His mother continued to live in the old house. Henry Dufford lived in the General Store. His son Frank built the house next to it (#8). With the exception of this last house, all of these properties are still owned by the Dufford family.

B. The Neighbour Family Cluster In addition to the Duffords, two other families dominated the social and economic history of Middle Valley. They also held onto their farmsteads through a period of several generations, with a resultant clustering of houses on that acreage. The Neighbours were among the earliest settlers in the area

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and were part owners of the Middle Valley Trap Rock and Mining Company.

The David Miller House (#19) and farmstead, purchased by Jacob W. Neighbour in 1847²⁴, was located next to an estate previously owned by members of his family. He willed this property to his son Lemuel. Sometime after Lemuel's marriage, and at the urging of his wife, he built house #22 for them, probably about 1880. Lemuel's mother occupied the Miller house until her death, at which time it was leased out to a variety of tenants. These houses are across the street from each other and remained in the possession of the Neighbour family until the 1960's, when the last of Lemuel's children died.

C. The Trimmer Family Cluster The Trimmers were the third prominent family associated with Middle Valley. Members of this family ran the peach basket factory (#13B) and a mill located between Middle Valley and Califon. They shared ownership of the Middle Valley Trap Rock and Mining Company with the Neighbours. Most of the houses associated with the Trimmer family are outside the boundaries of the proposed district. However, Anthony Trimmer built house #24 and also owned the Trimmer farm (#3) in the last quarter of the 19th century.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

As the population of this area grew, industries and stores sprang up. The diversification of the economic base of Middle Valley, which was later followed by the arrival of the railroad, created conditions that led to a spurt of new building. Small parcels of land along the roads and the river were sold off as building lots, while the large farmsteads remained mostly intact. The new houses were generally more detailed and ornamented than the old farmhouses. This contrast between the old farmsteads and the new housing of the 19th century is evident even today and gives Middle Valley its distinctive appearance.

The center for industrial activity was the area around the intersection of West Mill and Middle Valley Roads. This was the site of Middle Valley's first known industry, the Mills(#7A), which were built by William Welsh, Jr., about 1779. These mills were followed by a lime kiln, a general store, and a post office, and a blacksmithy before the end of the 1700's. Later industries located near this intersection included three general stores, two blacksmithys, and a peach basket factory. Munsell mentions the existence of a "hotel" at Middle Valley²⁵. The Roxbury Township Tax Ratables List of 1783 and 1784 show William Welsh, Jr. as owning a tavern in addition to the saw and grist mills, so it is possible as well as logical that the tavern was also located in this area.

1. *The Dufford Mills.* The saw and grist mills (#7A) are the earliest known industries in Middle Valley, and they were constructed by William Welsh, Jr., between 1775 and

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1779²⁶. The grist mill disappeared sometime in the middle 1800's. The saw mill remained in continuous operation until the mill dam broke in 1917, and it was torn down in the 1930's. The mill was also used for food processing, and sausage was made there in the 1800's²⁷.

This mill complex is the most important historical site in the Middle Valley district and certain characteristics make it an important cultural resource. The age of the mill complex and the longevity of its operation are important factors, as well as its location. The mill site also possesses a high degree of integrity, as it is located in an area along the Raritan River that has remained undisturbed for many years. The following features are presently detectable at the site:

- The outline of the pond: although the dam is no longer in place, the size of the pond is evident from the topography of the area.
- The Dam: stone foundations forming part of the dam are visible from both sides of the river.
- The foundation of the saw mill: Although the wood from the mill was cannibalized for other uses, some of the stone was left on the site and it is still visible. The site was filled in and has been left undisturbed since.
- The associated buildings: the will of George Dufford mentions the outbuildings of the mill complex. Their exact function and location have not yet been ascertained, although according to members of the Dufford family, some were used for the storage of coal.

2. **General Stores.** The beginning of Middle Valley as a community began with the appearance of general stores, which were the social and economic hubs of the neighborhood. People went there frequently to buy goods and collect their mail, and in the process met and conversed with their neighbors²⁸. As a result, they developed a new sense of identity of Middle Valley as an autonomous village separate from the rest of German Valley (Long Valley), a feeling which is still prevalent today.

The earliest store is thought to be that operated by David Miller on the site of what is now the Chapel (#18). Miller is first listed as owning property in Middle Valley in 1794²⁹ and it is about this time that the store was built. The stone foundation of the original building now supports the Chapel. This store also housed Middle Valley's first Post Office³⁰. The general store stayed in operation until 1891, when the building was purchased by the Middle Valley Hall Association and converted into a church (see Religion).

David Miller was one of the most prominent citizens in the early history of Middle Valley, and was known for being an ethical and religious man. In addition to being the area's first storekeeper and postmaster, he was a major in the First Battalion Second Regiment of New Jersey³¹.

There were other general stores in Middle Valley. One (#7) was located next to the

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Mill and was in operation from about 1850 until 1930. This store and its attached dwelling house were constructed by Joseph Holden, who purchased the mills 1847³³. In 1860, Holden sold the mills, the store, and the dwelling house to George Dufford. The Dufford family lived in the same building, and operated the store until the 1930's. Another general store and post office (#20) served the community beginning in 1924. The Post Office was closed in 1967 when it was merged with the one in Long Valley, to the great dismay and outrage of the citizens of Middle Valley. Frank Dufford, member of the Dufford family who still resides in Middle Valley, led the fight to save the Post Office. He said at the time, "(t)here's a great deal of pride involved here. This post office has existed for more than 100 years. It has survived wars and depressions and it seems ironic that in this age of the greatest prosperity known in this country that they can't afford to keep our post office open."³⁴ The general store remained open until 1980.

3. **Blacksmiths.** One of the most important occupations in Middle Valley was that of the blacksmith. The first recorded smithy was run by Issac Willets from about 1800 to 1834. The exact site of this shop is unknown, but deeds indicate that it was located on Middle Valley Road³⁵. The next blacksmith was John Miller. He bought the Fox Hill Presbyterian congregation house in 1843³⁶, where the Andrew Dufford House is now standing, and built his shop across the road next to the mill pond. An ice and wash house (#5.1) stands on this site today, and may be the original smithy itself. However, local residents and historians disagree on this point. A third blacksmithy was located on Middle Valley Road and was run by Luther Wack in the late 1800's. It was located in a barn complex that is still standing (#12.1)³⁷. Finally, John Moore, who was also the local Justice of the Peace, operated a blacksmith shop on West Mill Rd, #20A. He also held court in this building³⁸. It burned down about 1920, but two stone pillars associated with it are still standing³⁹.
4. **Other.** Many small businesses were associated with agriculture. There were several peach orchards in the area, and consequently L. B. Neighbour established a peach basket factory in the late 1800's⁴⁰. After it went out of business in the early 1900's, the building was used as a dance hall and finally as a garage. It was torn down about 1946. This site is located near the mill complex in a wetlands area and has remained undisturbed since the building was demolished.

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TRANSPORTATION

As the local transportation systems changed, so did the face of Middle Valley. The coming of the railroad led to a great increase in residential building in the last quarter of the 19th century. The Central Railroad of New Jersey built the High Bridge line through the valley beginning in 1874 and it was completed on July 1, 1876⁴¹. The Middle Valley Railroad was constructed in 1897 and was 1.338 miles long. It served to connect the quarry of the Middle Valley Trap Rock and Mining company to the main line, and was primarily a spur line used to haul ore⁴². The Middle Valley train station (#13A) and a freight house were built about 1877⁴³ and were torn down about 1950, but there is some evidence that the station house was reassembled in Beam Town, a neighboring community⁴⁴. Morris Trimmer, a local resident, is thought to have moved it there. The site of the train station is intact although the railroad bed itself has been disturbed by the construction of a gas pipeline. Floyd Fenton, another resident, moved the old Crestmoor train station to a spot in Middle Valley, #20.1, and salvaged part of the old school to build #41⁴⁵.

The Peter Kice House (#27) was the home of one of Middle Valley's station agents and was built about 1893⁴⁶. It typifies the kinds of houses that were constructed by the growing middle class that appeared here as a result of the railroad. The demand for new houses brought several carpenters to the area, and some took up permanent residence here. Both John Geist and Elmer Huffmann built their own houses. The Geist house (#33) was built about 1885⁴⁷ and the Huffmann house (#30) about 1883⁴⁸.

The railroad made it possible for many farmers to ship their produce to the cities, and Middle Valley became an important dairy center⁴⁹. The Middle Valley Creamery (#43A) was one of the largest dairies here, and another dairy operation was located on the Trimmer farm (#3). One of the community's more prominent residents was William Naughtright, who made a fortune in the creamery business and used part of it to build the large and elegant residence which bears his name (#15). This house is truly the most elaborate in this community. Naughtright was also elected to the State Assembly in 1889 and 1891⁵⁰ and was chairman of the committee on education during both terms.

The railroad also helped to establish Middle Valley as something of a summer resort. Many people came from Newark and New York to enjoy the beauty of the countryside and to fish and swim in the river⁵¹. Both the William Naughtright House (#15) and the Levi Farrow House (#9) were converted into boarding houses for summer residents by the end of the 19th century. One of the barns on what was then the Naughtright property was also used for this purpose. Naughtright had the loft of this barn converted into lodgings for roomers sometime in the 1890's⁵³. The barn is part of a complex associated with House #12 and has been returned to its original purpose. Several cottages (#20.2-20.4) were built along the river and are still in use today as rental dwellings for summer visitors.

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The improvement in transportation made it possible for several merchants whose businesses were located elsewhere to live in Middle Valley. Horst Pfeiffer was a corset manufacturer whose factory was in Newark. He bought the Naughtright property in the late 1890's. Local memory has it that corset crates from his factory were used in the construction of the little worker house (#14) that stands by the old railroad tracks⁵⁴.

EDUCATION

According to Munsell, Middle Valley had a school by 1789⁵⁵. The first school house was a log building that was replaced by one made of stone in 1810. Local history suggests that this school was located on Middle Valley Road, and is in fact the old section of house #11, the Annie Beam House⁵⁶. The original schoolhouse was stone, and deeds from the 1840's mention the stone section of the Annie Beam House as a reference point⁵⁷. By 1840, the school was located on its current site, and in 1861 the school district was incorporated as the Middle Valley School District⁵⁸. This is the first recorded use of the term "Middle Valley". That school was a frame structure that burned down in 1927. At that time a new building (#38) was constructed, and what was salvageable from the old schoolhouse was used to build house #41⁵⁹.

MEDICINE

Dr. Ebenezer Sherwood was Middle Valley's first doctor. He purchased the house now known as the Asylum (#6) along with the Mill (#7A) and its accompanying acreage in 1815⁶⁰. As previously mentioned, he was also an early practitioner in the field of mental health, and used the basement of his house for an institution for the treatment of the insane.

Another well-known doctor was Levi Farrow. He purchased the house which became his residence and offices at a sheriff's sale in 1869⁶¹. Dr. Farrow held the offices of secretary and president of the Morris County Medical Society and was active in the local Prohibition movement⁶². Apparently his temperance leanings had quite an impact on Middle Valley, as a deed of 1888 concerning property adjoining Farrow's land prohibits it from ever being used as a saloon⁶³. As his practice grew, so did his house. Originally the twin to the far simpler #10, this house now sports several additions and Italianate trim.

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RELIGION

At the beginning of Middle Valley's settlement, its residents went to church in German Valley (Long Valley), Lower Valley (Califon), or Fairmount. The first building used for worship in Middle Valley was the Chapel (#18). In 1891, forty-seven residents formed the Middle Valley Hall Association and bought the old general store from Jacob Welsh⁶⁵. They remodeled the building and constructed a belfry and steeple. The bell is said to have come from the old Califon schoolhouse⁶⁶. Ministers from the two churches in German Valley alternated in giving services on Saturday night. On Sundays, the Chapel was used for Sunday School for local children⁶⁷. It is still in use as a place for community gatherings and religious services.

CONCLUSION

Middle Valley's growth was largely completed by the end of the 19th century. It remained a close-knit community until the 1930's, when the paving of the road and the Depression combined to make people seek their livelihood and their home elsewhere. Today Middle Valley is a residential community whose heritage and rural setting remain largely intact, a phenomenon increasingly rare in Morris County. Portions of the original "leased lands" are still under cultivation, although developers are beginning to threaten the area. Long-time residents, including members of the original founding families, and newcomers alike have become involved in preservation activities, inspired by the history and the beauty of the community. It is this special architectural and historical heritage that makes Middle Valley important as an historical resource, and an important candidate for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

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FOOTNOTES

1. Certificate of Incorporation, Middle Valley School District, 1861.
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3. Theodore Frelinghuysen Chambers, *The Early Germans of New Jersey*, (Baltimore, 1969), pp. 151-154.
4. Morris County Hall of Records Deed #A 124.
5. Morris County Hall of Records Deed #Y 3 11.
6. Morris County Hall of Records Deed #Y 3 11.
7. Chambers, p. 152.
8. *Ibid.*, p. 154.
9. Morris County Hall of Records Deed #A 124.
10. Morris County Hall of Records Deed # 3 403.
11. Chambers, p. 153.
12. *Ibid.*, 153.
13. Morris County Hall of Records Deed #B 2 354.
14. Morris County Hall of Records Deed #Y 3 324.
15. Chambers, p. 153.
16. Francis Bazley Lee, *Genealogical and Memorial History of the State of New Jersey*, (1910), III, p. 332.
17. L. B. Neighbour, *Descendants of Leonard Neighbour*, (Dixon, IL, 1906), p. 2.
18. Chambers, p. 155. Also interviews with Stefan Firtko and Lillie Hoffmann.
19. Alice E. Manning, "Nineteenth Century Farmsteads on the Inner Coastal Plain of New Jersey", *Selected Papers on the Identification, Evaluation, and Protection of Cultural Resources*, (1984), p. 65.
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21. Morris County Surrogate's Office, will of George Dufford.
22. Morris County Hall of Records, Deed # F 4 328.
23. Morris County Hall of Records, Deed # V 5 323.
24. Interview with Laura Dufford Gano (b. 1892) Oct. 22, 1987.
25. Halsey, ed., *A History of Morris County, New Jersey*, (New York, 1882), p. 378.
26. Morris County Tax Ratables List, 1779.
27. Interview with Laura Dufford Gano, and newspaper clipping from Washington Township Historical Society files.
28. Interview with Laura Dufford Gano and Lillie Hoffmann.
29. Roxbury Township Tax Ratables List of 1794.
30. Halsey, p. 379.
31. *Biological and Genealogical History of Morris County, New Jersey*, (1899), II, 487.
32. Morris County Hall of Records Deed # M 4 164.
33. Morris County Hall of Records Deed #V 5 323.
34. *Newark Evening News*, Dec. 19, 1966, p.24.
35. Morris County Hall of Records, Deed # I 5 255.

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36. Morris County Hall of Records, Deed # C 4 273.
37. Morris County Hall of Records, Deed # K 12 168.
38. Interview with Laura Dufford Gano (b. 1892) Oct. 22, 1987.
39. Interview with Lillie Hoffmann (b. 1915) Oct. 15, 1987.
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41. Larry Lowenthal, *Iron Mine Railroads of Northern New Jersey*, (1981), p. 38.
42. Interview with Lillie Hoffmann, October 15, 1987.
43. Lowenthal, p. 48.
44. Firtko, Stefan "A History of Middle Valley", (unpublished manuscript).
45. *Ibid.*
46. Morris County Hall of Records Deed # W 13 225.
47. Washington Township Historical Society Archives.
48. Morris County Hall of Records, Deed # H 14 384.
49. Lowenthal, p. 39.
50. *Biographical and Genealogical History of Morris County, N.J.*, II, 964-5.
51. Interview with Lillie Hoffmann, October 15, 1987.
52. Interview with Lillie Hoffmann, October 15, 1987.
53. Interview with Lily Hoffmann, October 15, 1987.
54. Interview with Lillie Hoffmann, Laura Dufford Gano, and Stefan Firtko.
55. Halsey, p. 381.
56. Firtko, *op. cit.*
57. Morris County Hall of Records Deed # M 4 164.
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60. Morris County Hall of Records, Deed # C 2 212.
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62. *Biographical and Genealogical History of Morris County, N.J.*, I, 401-404.
63. Morris County Hall of Records Deed # K 12 168.
64. Interview with Lillie Hoffmann, October 15, 1987.
65. Morris County Hall of Records, Deed # K 13 588.
66. Firtko, *op. cit.*
67. Interview with Laura Dufford Gano, Oct. 22, 1987.

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C. Articles

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Roxbury Township Tax Ratables List (before 1800)
Washington Township Tax Ratables List (after 1800).

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Morris County, NJ

Middle Valley Historic District

References: Individual Structures

[Note: MCHR refers to the Morris County Hall of Records. The numbers are all deed numbers.]

1. Corporation book D 304
2. Modern house, circa 1950.
3. MCHR Y 3 324, D 5 318-319, B 31 562, B 2 354. Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. Roxbury Township tax ratables list, 1779.
4. Modern house, circa 1950.
5. MCHR C 4 273. Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. Interview with Laura Dufford Gano, daughter of builder.
6. MCHR C 2 212, E 4 307, F 4 328. Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.
7. Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR V 5 323, M 4 164, will of George Dufford.
- 7A. Gordon's Map of 1828, Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR V 5 323, M 4 164. Roxbury Township tax ratables list, 1779. Interviews with Laura Dufford Gano and Lillie Hoffmann.
8. MCHR E 41 207, H 15 475, A 15 49. Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.
9. MCHR 2881 333, 2486 1014, M 37 561, G 34 176, U 27 552, L 26 580, R 25 381, Z 22 294, Z 18 346, X 16 400, R 7 199, U 6 443. Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. Interview with Lillie Hoffmann.
10. MCHR S 9 112, S 6 372. Beers Map of 1868 (N. Trimmer), Robinson Map of 1887. Interview with Lillie Hoffmann, current owner.
11. MCHR 1910 1146, N 40 279. Beers Map of 1868 (J.C. Dellicker).
12. MCHR K 12 168. Robinson Map of 1887.

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- 13A. Interviews with Lillie Hoffmann and Laura Dufford Gano.
- 13B. Interviews with Lillie Hoffmann and Laura Dufford Gano.
14. MCHR 2488 396, 2397 375.
15. MCHR 2353 0594, 2077 1183, H 41 321, B 37 195, T 36 206, E 10 103, I 5 255.
Robinson Map of 1887 (Naughtright).
16. Modern house, circa 1988.
17. Beers Map of 1868 (Trimmer), Robinson Map of 1887 (Swayze).
- 17.1 MCHR T 11 348 (1886).
18. Morris County Tax Ratables List of 1794 (foundation).
19. MCHR 2756 634, 2516 676, 2385 101, 1851 779, 1919 1090, 1803 969, M 71 39, M
34 69, Q 25 363, K 4 334, O 3 252. Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of
1868, Robinson Map of 1887. HABS - NJ 519.
20. MCHR Y 25 68.
21. Interview with Stefan Firtko.
22. MCHR 2813 0126, 2686 628, 2091 1005, 1974 617, 1901 521. Robinson Map of
1887 (Neighbour). Interview with Laura Dufford Gano.
23. MCHR 2883 187, 2819 251, 1774 490, A 54 281, U 25 517, B 9 482, F 8 585.
Robinson Map of 1887.
24. MCHR T 8 524, M 10 404. Robinson Map of 1887.
25. MCHR B 47 288, A 38 252, N12 201, T 8 524.
26. MCHR 1866 365, W 33 427, M 31 286, P 24 342, C 16 353, M 10 404. Robinson
Map of 1887.
27. MCHR 2445 1021, C 44 414, W 13 225, T 8 524.
28. MCHR 2043 559, 1813 637, S 66 377, W 62 530, P 37 366, T 28 301, D 26 587, X
25 324, G 14 207, E 7 311, M 10 404. Beers Map of 1868 (L. Young), Robinson Map
of 1887.
29. Modern house, 1946.

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30. MCHR 2910 0874, 2662 69, 2556 529, E 11 21, E 12 364, Y 15 138, H 14 384. Robinson Map of 1887.
31. MCHR 2863 0715, 2482 989, 2250 37 Z 36 417, Y 12 83.
32. MCHR 2484 447, S 37 57, V 31 515.
33. MCHR 2878 535, 2644 915, 2227 710, 1990 234, K 37 165, T 36 206, X 31 191, X 31 190, O 16 211. Robinson Map of 1887.
34. Contemporary pole barn.
35. MCHR 2861 0590, 2275 327.
36. MCHR X 47 427, U 31 502, Y 29 146, R 24 51, E 8 268, Y 7 570, E 4 339. Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853 (H.P. Stryker), Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.
37. Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.
38. MCHR K 13 543.
39. Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887. MCHR 4 360 (1844).
40. MCHR I 31 419, Q 12 221, N 11 99, K 11 348, E 4 360. Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.
41. MCHR 2178 439, 2154 907, V 50 433, Y 43 292, W 36 18, T 12 151.
42. MCHR 2900 707, 2240 954, 2023 204, 1850 813, N 4 141. Hunterdon County Surrogate's Office 3 84 400. Morris County Surrogate's Office H 638. Robinson Map of 1887 (Trimmer).
43. Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853 (L. Dufford), Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.
44. MCHR 2884 739, 2682 94, 1937 36, 1936 1065, 1862 301, A 5 553, V 3 143-150, N 3 403. Lightfoot and Geils Map of 1853, Beers Map of 1868, Robinson Map of 1887.
45. MCHR 2557 592, 2359 916, 2070 413, 2012 639, 1968 653, 1936 1065, 1862 301, A 5 553. Appear on the Robinson Map of 1887 (E. Dufford).

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Middle Valley Historic District

Verbal Boundary Description

From the south side of Beacon Hill Road at Block 55 Lot 2 (the cemetery), follow the road to the corner of West Mill Road and proceed south along the southeast side of West Mill Road, to include all properties that front the road on this side. At the border of Block 55 Lots 3 and 30, cross West Mill Road and follow the northern border of Block 33 Lot 74 to its end at the Central Railroad of New Jersey railbed. Proceed east on the south boundary of Block 33 Lot 80, then turn northwest and follow the same property line to Middle Valley Road. Cross Middle Valley Road to the boundary between Block 54 Lots 2 and 3. Proceed southwest, then northwest on this boundary and turn southwest to follow the border of Block 54 Lot 3. Proceed following the northwest boundaries of Block 54 Lots 4-1 and 4. Turn southeast to continue around Block 54 Lot 4 and along the southwest boundary of Block 54 Lot 6. Cross the Central Railroad of New Jersey railbed to the northwest boundary of Block 54 Lot 7; proceed southwest along the boundary, then around its corner to the southeast. Continue along the south boundary of Block 54 Lot 9.1, and cross the South Branch of the Raritan River. Follow the east bank of the river to Block 54 Lot 12 and go around this lot to the southeast, then southwest, then northwest. Follow the east bank of the river again to the east edge of the Central Railroad of New Jersey railbed and follow this line south to the boundary between Block 54 Lots 25.2 and 25.3. Proceed east on this boundary to the west side of West Mill Road. Follow West Mill Road north to the boundary of Block 55 Lot 10. Proceed east on the boundary Block 55 Lot 10, then northeast and northwest. Follow the east borders of Block 55 Lots 20 and 28 to the northeast. Follow the boundaries of Block 55 Lot 30 around its southeast corner to the southeast, then northeast, then northwest. Proceed northeast on the border of Block 55 Lot 3 to Beacon Hill Road, and follow the south side of the road to the District starting point at the cemetery, Block 55 Lot 2.

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Middle Valley Historic District

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Middle Valley Historic District were drawn to include most of the buildings in the village. The community is isolated by large farm tracts at both ends of West Mill Road. The groups of buildings at each end, the Trimmer Farm (item 3), and the George Dufford structures (items 44 and 44.2), comprise the oldest components of the District.

The District boundary on Middle Valley Road to the west was drawn to include the last contiguous sequence of late 1800s dwellings. The District excludes the contemporary structures located on Middle Valley Road further up Schooley's Mountain. A small lot along the river (Block 54 Lot 12) is excluded because it has a contemporary dwelling which is set back from West Mill Road.

Although outlying areas are included in what has been traditionally known as "Middle Valley", they are not contiguous, and consist mainly of scattered farmhouses. The area suggested here represents the heart of the community in terms of residences, commerce, and education.

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UTM REFERENCES:

- A - 18/515920/4512460
- B - 18/516400/4512120
- C - 18/515620/4510920
- D - 18/514660/4510980
- E - 18/514780/4511820
- F - 18/514860/4511880
- G - 18/514780/4512280
- H - 18/515120/4512300
- I - 18/515160/4512040

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PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information is the same for all photographs: the photographer is William B. Leavens and the original negatives are located at the Middle Valley Community Center, Long Valley, NJ, 07853. All properties are located in Washington Township, Morris County. Streetscapes and aerial views are indicated by a letter. Photographs of individual properties are identified by a number which is the same as the number assigned to it in the inventory and on the accompanying sketch map. All buildings are in the Middle Valley Historic District. (* means photo not sent to National Park Service)

Streetscapes and Aerial Views

- A. Streetscape, Middle Valley Historic District. View of West Mill Rd. looking south towards the intersection of Middle Valley Road. The Chapel (#18) is in the center of the picture. Date of photograph - December 10, 1987.
- B. Streetscape, Middle Valley Historic District. View of the center of the district looking west towards the intersection of West Mill Rd. and Middle Valley Rd. The Chapel (#18) is to the left and the Dufford General Store (#7) is on the right. Date of photograph - December 10, 1987.
- C. Streetscape, Middle Valley Historic District. View of West Mill Rd. looking north towards the intersection of Middle Valley Road. House #8 is in the center of the picture. Date of photograph - December 10, 1987.
- D. Aerial view, Middle Valley Historic District. View of the district looking north. Date of photograph - December 4, 1987.
- *E. Aerial view, Middle Valley Historic District. View of the intersection of West Mill Rd. and Middle Valley Rd. looking east. The South Branch of the Raritan is in the lower foreground. Date of photograph - December 4, 1987.
- *F. Aerial view. Picture of the Andrew Dufford House (#5) and outbuildings on the left of the Asylum (#6) and outbuildings on the right. Date of photograph - December 4, 1987.

Individual Structures

- 1. The Middle Valley Cemetery, Beacon Hill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - October 23, 1987.
- 2. Beacon Hill Rd. Direction of view - north. Date of photograph - January 30, 1988.
- 3. The Trimmer Farm, 333 West Mill Rd. Direction of view - northeast. Date of photograph - January 30, 1988.

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4. 339 West Mill Rd. Direction of view - east. Date of photograph - January 30, 1988.
 - 5.(1) The Andrew Dufford House, 343 West Mill Rd. Direction of view - north. Date of photograph - January 30, 1988.
 - 5.(2) The Andrew Dufford House, 343 West Mill Rd. Detail of southwestern facade. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
 - 5.3 Wood shed, formerly the ice house for the Andrew Dufford House, 343 West Mill Rd. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
 - 6.(1) The "Asylum", 347 West Mill Road. Direction of view - south. Date of photograph - January 30, 1988.
 - 6.(2) The "Asylum", 347 West Mill Road. Direction of view - east. Date of photograph - January 30, 1988.
 - 6.1,6.2 Wood barn and stone barn, outbuildings of the Asylum (#6), 347 West Mill Road. Direction of view - north. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
 - 7.(1) The Dufford General Store, 356 West Mill Road. Direction of view - east. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
 - 7.(2) The Dufford General Store, 356 West Mill Road. Direction of view - northwest. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
 8. 358 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
 9. The Levi Farrow House, 11 Middle Valley Road. Direction of view - southwest. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
 10. 13 Middle Valley Road. Direction of view - southwest. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
 11. The Annie Beam House, 15 Middle Valley Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
 - *12. 17 Middle Valley Road. Direction of view of house and outbuildings - southwest. Date of photograph - December 11, 1988.
 - *14. 16 Middle Valley Road. Direction of view - north. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.

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- *15.(1) The William Naughtright House, 19 Middle Valley Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
- 15.(2) The William Naughtright House, 19 Middle Valley Road. Direction of view - southeast. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
16. Middle Valley Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
17. 25 Middle Valley Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
- 17.1 25 Middle Valley Road. Direction of view - north. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
- 18.(1) The Chapel, West Mill Road. Direction of view - east. Date of photograph - October 23, 1987.
- 18.(2) The Chapel, West Mill Road. Direction of view - south. Date of photograph - October 23, 1987.
- 19.(1) The David Miller House, 359 West Mill Road. Direction of view of front façade - east. Date of photograph - October 23, 1987.
- 19.(2) The David Miller House, 359 West Mill Road. Direction of view - north. Date of photograph - October 23, 1987.
20. The Old Post Office, 360 West Mill Road. Direction of view - northwest. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
21. 362 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
22. 370 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
23. 372 West Mill Road. Direction of view - southwest. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
24. The Andrew Trimmer House, 374 West Mill Road. Direction of view - southwest. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
25. 371 West Mill Road. Direction of view - east. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.

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26. 376 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
 - *27. The Peter Kice House, 373 West Mill Road. Direction of view - east. Date of photograph - March 5, 1988.
 28. The Laney Young House, 378 West Mill Road. Direction of view - southwest. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
 29. 375 West Mill Road. Direction of view - east. Date of photograph - March 5, 1988.
 30. The Elmer Huffmann House, 380 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - March 5, 1988.
 31. 379 West Mill Road. Direction of view - northeast. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
 32. 382 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - March 5, 1988.
 33. The John Geist House, 383 West Mill Road. Direction of view - northeast. Date of photograph - March 5, 1988.
 35. 385 West Mill Road. Direction of view - northeast. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
 36. 389 West Mill Road. Direction of view - southwest. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
 37. 400 West Mill Road. Direction of view - southwest. Date of photograph - January 23, 1988.
 38. Middle Valley School, 402 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - March 5, 1988.
 39. 401 West Mill Road. Direction of view - east. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
 40. 405 West Mill Road. Direction of view - east. Date of photograph - March 5, 1988.
 41. 406 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.

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- 42. The Mary Trimmer House, West Mill Road. Direction of view - east. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
- 43. The Lawrence Dufford House, 414 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.
- 44.(1) The George Dufford House, 422 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - January 9, 1988.
- 44.(2) The George Dufford House, 422 West Mill Road. Direction of view - south. Date of photograph - January 9, 1988.
- 45. 438 West Mill Road. Direction of view - west. Date of photograph - December 11, 1987.